

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-41 have been cancelled.

42. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~liquid-liquid micro-extraction, or liquid-liquid-liquid~~ micro extraction, said method comprising the steps of:

~~disposing-providing a first container having~~ a sample solution comprising a dissolved analyte ~~into a first container~~therein;

~~disposing-providing a second container, that is hollow, into said sample solution,~~
~~providing the second container with a membrane wall having fibre~~fiber pores permeable by the analyte;

~~disposing an acceptor solution into~~filling the second container with an acceptor solution;

~~lowering the second container into the first container with the sample solution therein~~;

~~allowing analyte~~stirring the sample solution until equilibrium ~~to be~~is established between said sample solution and said acceptor solution through said membrane wall; and

removing analyte enriched acceptor solution from said second container.

43. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 42 further comprising the step of ~~disposing a liquid membrane in~~impregnating said ~~fibre~~fiber pores with a liquid before ~~disposing-lowering~~ said second ~~hollow~~-container into said ~~sample solution~~first container.

44. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 42 wherein the step of ~~disposing-lowering~~ a second ~~hollow~~-container into said ~~sample solution~~first container comprises ~~disposing-lowering~~ a tubular microporous ~~fibre~~fiber into said ~~sample solution~~first container.

45. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of ~~disposing-lowering~~ a tubular ~~fibre~~fiber comprises ~~disposing-lowering~~ a closed end ~~fibre~~fiber into said ~~sample solution~~first container.

46. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of ~~disposing-lowering~~ a tubular ~~fibre~~fiber comprises ~~disposing-lowering~~ a center portion of a tubular ~~fibre~~fiber having two open ends into said ~~sample solution~~first container.

47. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 44 wherein the step of ~~disposing~~ filling an acceptor solution into the second container ~~comprising~~ comprises the step of ~~disposing~~ filling the second container with an acceptor solution having a pH for ionizing the analyte to prevent ionized analyte from passing from said acceptor solution through the membrane wall and into the sample solution.

Claims 48-61 cancelled.